

EPISODE OUTLINE - THE COLORING CONTEST (Episode 25)

Principal Characters: Supporting Characters: Extras:

All Barton Winslow None

SOCIAL THEME: Dealing with jealousy

STATION EVENT: Coloring contest

THOMAS EPISODES: "Thomas, Percy and the Coal" and "Gordon and the Famous Visitor"

PUPPET SONG: "Arkansas Traveler"

PICTURE MACHINE SONG: None

CREATIVE PLAY: Drawing and coloring

ACQUIRED FOOTAGE: TBD

RESOLUTION: Character's learn that success is in the effort and creation.

STORY OUTLINE: Story opens with Barton on his way to a motorcycle race. He doesn't know whether or not he'll win, but he's determined to try. Stacy wishes him luck. Dan is in the station and witnesses this exchange with Stacy and Barton.

Kara and Vickie come bounding in with news of a coloring contest: the object is to draw someone you know. They're both going to enter, and Dan decides to enter along with them. The kids set to work on their drawings. Kara draws Billy, Vickie tries to draw Stacy, and Dan can't decide what to draw.

Vickie notices that Kara's drawing of Billy is very good, compared to her drawing of Stacy. She rips up her drawing and starts over again, but can't seem to get it right. This makes her angry at Kara and jealous of her artistic skills.

Mr. Conductor appears, and Vickie tell him about her anger at Kara. He cautions her about jumping to conclusions about another person, and this leads into TTE story "Thomas, Percy and the Coal."

After the story Vickie still isn't satisfied. She wants to draw the best picture ever made. In his all knowing way, Mr. Conductor decides to make her dream come true and creates a beautiful sketch of Stacy, which Vickie can claim for her own.

*

Schemer notices that Kara is drawing Billy, that Vickie has drawn Stacy, but no one has drawn him. He approached Dan, who is still

trying to figure out who to draw, and tries to convince Dan to draw him. Dan refuses.

Not one to be left out, Schemer secretly draws his own picture of himself to submit anonymously. He waits until Billy steps out, and sneaks into the workshop. Billy happens to be painting a picture of a tree, which is half finished on the easel. Schemer takes some paper and a bottle of ink. He retreats to his arcade where he quietly begins his own sketch.

Meanwhile, Vickie is showing around her picture and basking in the complements for the other kids, Stacy and Billy. Everyone is sure she'll win the contest. Stacy is particularly touched by the sketch, and she's amazed that Vickie drew such an accomplished picture. Vickie grows vague as Stacy asks her about how she learned to draw so well, and wonders at all the hours she must have spent to become so skilled.

Vickie goes over to the jukebox where she stares at the sketch, then pulls out her original sketch and compares them. Inside the jukebox box, the puppets echo the theme by asking Tito how he became so good at playing the piano. Tito goes into a flashback scene, to when he was a little boy learning the piano. One day, frustrated by his piano lessons, the piano came alive and said it would play whatever he wanted it to play. Suddenly, little Tito became a master pianist, impressing his mother with his skills. He plays brilliantly, but the piano can only play the same number over and over. He also feels guilty when his mother says how proud she is of him. He finally asks the piano to stop playing for him, having concluded that the only way he will ever take real pride in his piano playing is by practicing until he learns how to play the piano by himself--which is what he did. Now he can play anything he wants, and it's all his.

This entire sequence will be done with puppets on the existing puppet stage, and enhanced through lighting and dissolves.

Vickie plays a puppet song: "Arkansas Traveler".

After the song, Vickie overhears Stacy talking to Dan about his picture. Dan still hasn't decided who or what to draw, but now he wonders if he should even bother: Vickie's picture is so good she's sure to win the contest. Stacy responds by saying that it's not who wins or loses the contest that's important, but that Dan draws a picture that comes from inside himself, and how his picture expresses his true feelings. That what creating is all about.

ACQUIRED FOOTAGE

Mr. Conductor appears. Vickie is still envious of Kara--this time because she realizes that Kara has accomplished her sketch through her own resources and skill, while Vickie can no longer take any pride in her creation. Mr. Conductor takes his cue and tells the TTE story: "Gordon and the Famous Visitor."

Vickie sees that being jealous of someone else isn't going to help her. But she still can't accept the idea of entering her own sketch, instead of the one that Mr. Conductor drew for her. Her sketch is "so bad" and Mr. Conductor's version is "so good."

Mr. Conductor notes that Billy is painting something, and suggests that Vickie go and talk to him about how to be a good painter.

Billy is painting a tree because, he explains, he's never painted a tree before and if he had to name something in the forest that reminded him of himself, it would be a tree. So his painting is a kind of self-portrait. Kara wonders what he would think if the painting wasn't any good. Billy responds that being "good" or "bad" isn't the point: the idea is to take pride in the act of creation. He adds that people will always respect you for believing in yourself and believing in your own creation.

Kara knocks at the door: the pictures are due for the contest, and she wonders if Vickie will go to town with her where the contest is being held. Vickie tells her to go ahead, and she'll catch up later.

Time passes, and Barton Winslow returns from the motorcycle race. He confides to Stacy that he didn't win, and wishes that he had. The kids return from the contest. It turns out that Kara won first prize for best all around picture, Dan won a prize for best action picture, and Vickie got third prize--because her's was so expressive.

When Stacy looks at Vickie's picture she sees it's not the one from before, but it's still a sketch of her. And what it lacks in artistic skill, it more than makes up for in the tender way it depicts Stacy. Vickie is proud of her creation because it came from the heart.

But the real surprise is Dan--he drew a picture of Barton Winslow on his motorcycle because in his mind Barton is a hero. Suddenly, winning or losing the race doesn't matter to Barton: he knows that he's a hero to Dan, no matter what.

Schemer wanders over and slyly inquires if there is a picture of him anywhere in the pile. The kids pull out a blank sheet of paper with the inscription: "My picture of Schemer, the finest human being I've had the pleasure to know. Signed: An Anonymous Admirer."

Schemer blurts out that the picture has vanished. What picture, Stacy asks? Billy helps out by putting two and two together: he's missing some invisible ink, and now he knows where it went. Schemer denies everything, but all the characters know the real score.

J?
hokay

O once up-on a time in Ar-kan-sas, An old man sat in his
lit-tle cab-in door, And fid-dled at a tune that he lik'd to hear, A
jol-ly old—tune that he play'd—by ear. It was rain-ing—hard, but the
fid-dler did-n't care, He saw'd a-way at the pop-u-lar air, Tho' his
roof tree—leak'd like a wa-ter-fall, That did-n't seem to both-er the man— at all.

A traveler was riding by that day,
And stopped to hear him a-practicing away;
The cabin was afloat and his feet were wet,
But still the old man didn't seem to fret.
So the stranger said, "Now the way it
seems to me,
You'd better mend your roof," said he.
But the old man said, as he played away,
"I couldn't mend it now, it's a rainy day."

The traveler replied: "That's all quite true,
But this, I think, is the thing for you to do;
Get busy on a day that is fair and bright,
Then patch the old roof till it's good and
tight."
But the old man kept on a-playing at his reel,
And tapp'd the ground with his leathery heel:
"Get along," said he, "for you give me a
pain;
My cabin never leaks when it doesn't rain."

Days Of Forty-Nine

I'm old Tom Moore from the bum-mer's shore, In the good old gold-en
days, They call me a bum-mer and a gin-sot too, But what cares I for

6/6/91

#25

WIN, LOSE OR DRAW

Episode 25 - Shining Time Station

Coloring Contest

by

Jill Golick

MAY 21, 1991

FIRST DRAFT

SCENE 1
(MAINSET)

(BARTON WINSLOW - IN APRON,
SUSPENDERS, ETC - WALKS BRISKLY
ACROSS THE STATION CARRYING A
CARDBOARD BOX. HE CROSSES TO STACY
WHO IS STAMPING A PASSENGER'S
TICKET)

BARTON

Morning Stacy.

STACY

Barton. What brings you
to Shining Time Station?
Your dry goods shipment
won't be in until...

(SHE CHECKS HER CLIPBOARD)

... Thursday.

BARTON

Delivery for the children.

(BARTON REMOVES THREE PACKAGES OF
CRAYONS FOR THE CHILDREN)

New Crayons...

STACY

(ADMIRING THE CRAYONS)

Lovely colors.

BARTON

A dollar fifty nine a
box.

(GETTING PAPER OUT OF THE BOX)

A supply of my finest
drawing paper.

STACY

(RUBBING THE PAPER BETWEEN HER
FINGERS)

Mmmm.

BARTON

(HANDING OUT BROCHURES)

... and of course, the
entry forms for the
Indian Valley Coloring
contest.

STACY

(EXAMINING THE BROCHURES)

That's right. The
Coloring contest is
today.

(SCHEMER ENTERS THE SCENE FROM THE
DIRECTION OF THE ARCADE AND PICKS
UP THE CRAYONS TO READ THE PRICE
TAG)

SCHEMER

Give Always?

J ??

BARTON

Paid for and delivered.

STACY

It was kind of you to
bring these to the
station, but you really
shouldn't have bothered.
The children could have
picked them up at the
general store.

BARTON

(REMOVING HIS APRON AND FOLDING IT
VERY NEATLY)

The general store will be
closed.

(BARTON PLACES HIS APRON CAREFULLY ON THE BENCH. HE REACHES INTO THE BOX AND TAKES OUT HIS LEATHER JACKET, WHICH HE HANDS TO STACY, HIS HELMET, WHICH HE PLACES ON THE BENCH. THEN HE PUTS THE APRON CAREFULLY INTO THE BOX, ALONG WITH THE PEN PROTECTOR FROM HIS BREAST POCKET.)

SCHEMER

Closing up, eh Barton? I knew you were running that place into the ground. You should have followed the famous Schemer system of Success. Low quality, high prices.

BARTON

Closed for today,
Schemer.

(DAN ENTERS FROM THE STREET AND
CROSSES TO JOIN STACY AND BARTON)

SCHEMER

And never closes up shop
on the busiest day of the
week.

(SCHEMER EXITS)

BARTON

I have an important
engagement.

(STACY HOLD UP THE LEATHER JACKET)

DAN:

Hi Stacy. Hi Mr. Winslow.

BARTON

Morning Son.

young man
could confuse the viewer

(PUTTING HIS ARMS INTO HIS JACKET)

What's Shaken?

DAN

Going to ride your
motorcycle again, Mr.
Winslow?

BARTON

Daddy's
This cat is going to put
the pedal to the metal in
a very big motorcycle
showdown.

DAN

Wow.

(TO STACY)

What's he talking about?

STACY

I think Barton is going
in a motorcycle race.

DAN

That's neat.

BARTON

It's my first time out,
so I don't know if I will *can*
win. But I'm sure going
to give it my best shot.

(PUTTING ON HIS SUNGLASSES)

And now, I'm outta here.

DAN

I hope you win.

STACY

Good luck. Drive
carefully. *safely* :

BARTON

(PUTTING ON HIS HELMET)

Always. Like later dude
and dudette.

(BARTON EXITS WITH HIS BOX)

DAN

Later Barton.

(MR. C POPS IN AND OUT - TBW)

(SFX: ROAR OF MOTORCYCLE, SQUEAL OF
TIRES)

(VICKIE AND KARA COME TEARING IN.)

VICKIE

Hi Dan!

KARA

Hi Stacy!

STACY

You just missed Barton
Winslow.

VICKIE

We saw him leaving.

DAN

I bet he looked *awesome* cool on
his motorcycle.

VICKIE

He almost ran us over.

KARA

We told him to slow down.

STACY

(HOLDING OUT THE DRAWING SUPPLIES)

He brought you these.

VICKIE

Great the crayons we
ordered.

KARA

I'm going to start now.

(STACY EXITS TO THE PLATFORM)
(THE CHILDREN DEAL OUT THE CRAYONS
AND PAPER)
(SFX: TRAIN ARRIVING)

DAN

I'm going to draw a train.

(SCHEMER DRIFTS OVER AND LISTENS.)

VICKIE

Draws for the contest
It has to be a person.

(SCHEMER STRIKES A POSE, JUST AS
PASSENGERS FROM THE RECENTLY
ARRIVED TRAIN ENTER THE STATION)

KARA

You have to draw someone
you know.

(THE CHILDREN ARE THINKING ABOUT
WHO TO DRAW. SCHEMER STRIKES A NEW
POSE. THE CHILDREN IGNORE HIM, BUT
THE PASSENGERS OBVIOUSLY THINK HE'S
A LITTLE ODD. SCHEMER NOTICES ONE
OF THE PASSENGERS FISHING IN HER
POCKETS FOR CHANGE AS SHE HEADS FOR
THE ARCADE AND HE BUSTLES OFF AFTER
HER)

DAN

So, who are you going to
draw?

(BILLY ENTERS FROM THE PLATFORM)

CHILDREN

(AD LIB)

Hi Billy. How are things
up at Chubby corners?
Etc...

BILLY

Chubby Corners is just
the way it always is ,
just the way it should
be.

DAN

Did you bring back
anything?

(SCHEMER REAPPEARS TO TAKE UP HIS
POSE AGAIN. BILLY LETS HIS EYES
DRIFT OVER TO HIM BRIEFLY BEFORE
RETURNING HIS ATTENTION TO THE
CHILDREN)

BILLY

Yes.

KARA

What?

BILLY

Something Special. For
Later.

(SCHEMER IS LISTENING QUITE
INTENTLY . BILLY TURNS TOWARD HIS
OFFICE. THE CHILDREN CAN'T BEAR TO
WAIT.)

KARA

Don't go yet.

DAN

Tell us now.

VICKIE

Please, Billy.

(BILLY TURNS AND PRODUCES A BOTTLE
OF INK. SCHEMER ROLLS HIS EYES.)

VICKIE

(DISAPPOINTED)

Ink?

BILLY

Ah, but special ink. It
does something almost
magical to whatever you
write with it. That is
all I will tell you now.
For the rest, you'll have
to wait.

(BILLY EXITS TO HIS OFFICE. THE
CHILDREN AND SCHEMER ARE ALL
CLEARLY INTRIGUED.)

DAN

I can't wait to find out
what it does.

VICKIE

I bet he'll show us when
we get our drawings
finish.

KARA

I'm drawing Billy.

VICKIE

Then I'm drawing Stacy.

DAN

I don't know who to draw.

(DAN SITS THINKING. KARA WORKS
DILIGENTLY ON HER DRAWING. VICKIE
SETS TO WORK TOO. GLANCING AT STACY
NOW AND THEN)

VICKIE

I really want to win.
I've never won anything
before.

KARA

I won a race at the
county fair last year. I
got a blue ribbon.

VICKIE

I know.

DAN

You won a raffle too.

VICKIE

You did. You won a deluxe
set of vacuum cleaner
attachments.

KARA

How could I forget? Now
my parents think I should
do all the vacuuming.

(VICKIE EXAMINES HER DRAWING WITH A
CRITICAL EYE)

VICKIE

But you won. You're
always winning.

KARA

(HOLDING UP ONE OF HER CRAYONS)

This is a great color for
shading.

VICKIE

Shading?

KARA

You know, to make it look
like there are shadows.

(VICKIE CRANES HER NECK TO SEE KARA'S DRAWING, THEN RISES AND MOVES TOWARD KARA FOR A BETTER LOOK.)

KARA

What do you think?

VICKIE

(GRUDGINGLY)

Well... it's good.

KARA

Can I see yours?

VICKIE

It's not ready.

(VICKIE WANDERS AWAY, GLUMLY)

SCENE 2
(MAINSET)

(STANDING NEAR THE MURAL, VICKIE LOOKS DOWN AT HER OWN DRAWING. SHE RIPS IT UP INTO LITTLE PIECES AND LETS THEM FALL SLOWLY OUT OF HER HAND SO THAT THEY DRIFT TOWARD THE FLOOR)

MR. C.

My Goodness. I should
have thought it was too
hot for snow.

(THE BITS OF PAPER SPRINKLE DOWN ON MR. C STANDING NEAR VICKIE'S FEET.)

Get your mittens on
Vickie. we're going to
build a snowman.

VICKIE

It's not snow Mr.
Conductor. I ripped up my
drawing.

MR.C

A drawing?

(HE PICKS UP ONE OF THE BITS AND
LOOKS AT IT)

So it is. That's a
familiar looking eye.

(HE PICKS UP ANOTHER BIT)

I'd like to see this
picture.

VICKIE

It's too late now.

MR. C

It's never too late.

VICKIE

Besides it was lousy.

MR. C

I'll be the judge of
that.

(MR. C PUTS OUT HIS HANDS, AND
WAVES OVER THE INDIVIDUAL BITS OF
PAPER, LIKE A TRAFFIC COP. THE
DRAWING REASSEMBLES ON THE FLOOR.
VICKIE PICKS IT UP)

VICKIE

Wow.

MR. C

It's Stacy. And she looks
much better now.

VICKIE

Even your magic can't
make it good enough to
win the coloring contest.
Kara's drawing is much
better than mine. Maybe
Billy is easier to draw
than Stacy. Or maybe
she's cheating somehow...

MR. C

Cheating? We can't have
that. Call the contest
judges. We'll put a stop
to it right now.

VICKIE

I'm not sure she's
cheating.

MR.C

But you said she was. And
you wouldn't say things
you don't mean. Not about
your friends. Not like
Thomas.

VICKIE

Thomas?

MR.C

You mean you don't know
the story about Thomas,
Percy and the Coal?

(VICKIE SHAKES HER HEAD)

MR.C

Right then, I'll tell you
about it.

(MR.C BLOWS HIS WHISTLE)

SCENE 3

(THOMAS EPISODE: THOMAS, PERCY AND
THE COAL)

SCENE4
(MAINSET)

MR.C

So you can see the
problem with saying
things you don't mean.

VICKIE

Okay, okay. She's not
cheating. But I still
need to figure out a way
to win the contest.

MR. C

I don't suppose you'd
consider working on your
drawing?

VICKIE

Kara's drawing will
always be better.

MR. C

Maybe she deserves to
win.

VICKIE

But she's won stuff
before and I never have.

MR. C

Tell that to the judges.

VICKIE

The only way I'll ever
win is by magic.

MR.C

Do you know any?

VICKIE

No.

(AFTER A DISMAL PAUSE, THE
BRILLIANT IDEA COMES TO HER)

But you do.

MR. C

Would you like to see me
pull a rabbit out of my
hat?

VICKIE

I bet you could use magic
to make a fabulous
picture.

MR. C

That's true. But I don't
want to enter the
contest.

VICKIE

For me. I could enter it
and win.

MR. C

Have you ever heard of
the expression winning
isn't everything?

VICKIE

Oh, please. Will you do
it Mr Conductor? Say
you'll do it.

MR. C

You'll do it.

VICKIE

No. Say you'll use magic
to make me a winning
picture.

MR C

You want to be a picture?

VICKIE

Mr. C, please. I have to win this contest. I have to.

MR. C

Apparently, winning the contest is very important to you.

VICKIE

Oh it is. More important than anything. And this is the only way.

(MR CONDUCTOR PICKS UP A CRAYON WHICH HAD FALLEN TO THE FLOOR. HE POINTS IT IN THE DIRECTION OF A BLANK SHEET VICKIE IS HOLDING)

MR.C

If it's that important ... But I hope winning the contest makes you feel like a winner.

(VICKIE LOOKS DOWN AT THE PAPER, A BEAUTIFUL PORTRAIT OF STACY HAS APPEARED.)

VICKIE

It's perfect. Mr Conductor. Now I'll win for sure. Thank you.

(MR CONDUCTOR WATCHES KNOWINGLY)

(ANGLE ON SCHEMER. MR CONDUCTOR SEES HIM AND DISAPPEARS. SCHEMER SIDLES OVER TO KARA, WHO IS BUSY DRAWING.)

SCHEMER

Look at this! Look at
this! When I was your
age, I was already
outselling insects to
people with ant farms.

KARA

(TO SCHEMER, BY WAY OF EXPLANATION)

Well, we're making
pictures of people we
know. There's a prize.

SCHEMER

A prize?

(POSING, CLEARS HIS THROAT)

A-hem, my good side.

KARA

(HOLDING UP HER PICTURE)

I'm drawing Billy.

VICKIE

I'm drawing Stacy.

SCHEMER

(TO DAN)

What about you?

DAN

I can't decide who to
draw.

SCHEMER

There's always your
truly. A big full color
portrait of me holding a
dollar bill. We could
frame it and hang it on
the station wall. Have
you ever seen a more
magnificent profile?

(DAN SHAKES HIS HEAD)

SCHEMER

Come on. You want to win,
don't you? We can split
the prize.

DAN

I don't know Schemer...

SCHEMER

What's to know? Whose
face is more likely to
impress the judges?

DAN

Naww...I wouldn't draw a
very good picture of you.
I don't think I could get
your nose right.

SCHEMER

Oh well. You're probably
right. You're not up to
my artistic standards.

(SCHEMER THINKS FOR A MOMENT,
TOUCHES HIS NOSE)

What did he mean about my
nose?

(SCHEMER SHAKES OFF THE THOUGHT.)

SCHEMER (CONT')

There's not one artist
around here that could do
this ruggedly handsome
face justice. Unless...

(SCHEMER LOOKS IN THROUGH THE
WORKSHOP DOOR.)

(ANGLE ON BILLY. HE SPOTS THE INK
SITTING ON BILLY'S DESK)

Genius time! Genuis
Time!

(A FLASHBACK TO BILLY'S ARRIVAL
WITH THE INK APPEARS OVER SCHEMER'S
SHOULDER IN A SOFT WIPE FRAME)

(BILLY STEPS OUT OF THE WORKSHOP.
SCHEMER IS SO TAKEN WITH HIS PLAN
THAT HE DOESN'T NOTICE HIM)

BILLY

Did you want something
Schemer?

SCHEMER

(SURPRISED)

Me? What? No! Why? Why
would I want anything of
yours? I don't want
anything.

BILLY

If you want to borrow
anything just let me
know.

(SCHEMER QUICKLY TURNS TO GIVE THE
APPEARANCE OF BEING BUSY, BUT AS
SOON AS BILLY CROSSES TO KARA,
SCHEMER GLANCES FROM SIDE TO SIDE
AND CREEPS INTO THE WORKSHOP.)

SCENE 5

(WORKSHOP)

(IN THE WORKSHOP SCHEMER CROSSES TO
THE DESK)

SCHEMER

(GRABBING THE INK)

Ink that does something
almost magical to
whatever you draw. Hey,
it's like Billy said: I'm
just borrowing it. I'll
tell him later.

(HE POCKETS THE INK AND A PEN AND
EXITS)

SCENE6

(MAINSET)

(UNNOTICED BY THE OTHERS, SCHEMER
SURREPTITIOUSLY SWIPES A PIECE OF
DRAWING PAPER BEFORE CROSSING TO
THE ARCADE. KARA IS SHOWING OFF HER
PICTURE TO BILLY.)

BILLY

(ADMIRING KARA'S WORK)

This is you Kara.

KARA

No, it's you.

BILLY

I mean it reminds me of
you. Your personality
comes out in the drawing.
That's makes it special.

(CALLING TO STACY)

Have you seen Kara's
drawing?

(STACY JOINS THEM AND LOOKS AT
KARA'S PICTURE. VICKIE SIDLES OVER
HOLDING HER PICTURE AND LOOKING A
BIT SMUG)

STACY

Oh Kara. It's perfect. →

(GLANCING FROM THE PICTURE TO BILLY
AND BACK)

It's hard to know which
is which.

BILLY

You put a lot of yourself
into it.

KARA

I had fun.

VICKIE

Wanna see mine?

(VICKIE HOLDS OUT HER DRAWING TO
KARA. IT IS VERY DETAILED PICTURE
OF STACY IN A PINK FRILLY FAIRY
PRINCESS-TYPE BALL GOWN. STACY'S
FACE IS REALISTICALLY PORTRAYED AND
EVERYTHING IS IN PERFECT
PROPORTION.)

KARA

(GENUINELY HAPPY FOR HER)

Wow. Yours is really
good.

(SHE HANDS THE PICTURE TO BILLY. HE
LOOKS THEN HAND THE DRAWING TO
STACY)

VICKIE

What do you think Billy?

BILLY

What do you think Vickie?

*its better than a photo because it
tells
you are inside*

it looks like a photograph

VICKIE

I think the picture makes
Stacy look like a fairy
princess.

STACY

Vickie, I'm flattered.
Have you been taking art
lessons?

Looks just like a picture of

VICKIE

Lessons? No.

STACY

But how did you learn
draw so well? This
picture has so much
texture?

VICKIE

(UNCOMFORTABLE)

Texture?

BILLY

You have a natural flair
for drawing.

(LOOKING AT BOTH GIRLS)

STACY

Well, you both put in a
lot of effort. You can
feel very proud of
yourselves.

(KARA BEAMS, BUT VICKIE DOES NOT
LOOK ESPECIALLY PROUD)

KARA

I think this is the best
drawing I ever made. I'm
going to keep working on
it.

(VICKIE SLINKS OVER TO THE JUKEBOX
AND STARES AT HER PICTURE. AT HER
FEET LIES THE CRUMPLED BALL OF HER
FIRST DRAWING ATTEMPT. SHE PICKS IT
UP , SMOOTHS IT OUT AND THEN
COMPARES THE TWO)

SCENE 7
(INT JUKEBOX)

(INSIDE THE JUKEBOX)

DIDI

Poor kid, she really
feels bad.

TEX

And she doesn't know why.

REX

Neither do I. She's got
the winning picture in
her hand. What's the
matter with her?

TITO

(SINGING TO THE TUNE OF FEELINGS)

Feelings. I know just how
she's feeling.

REX

You do?

TITO

Rex, baby, I wasn't
always the brilliant key
tickler that stands
before you. When I was
just a little Tito,
learning to play, I had
some hard times like
Vickie.

DIDI

I didn't know that.

TITO

I suffered in the
beginning.

REX

Then how did you get so
good?

TITO

Baby, baby that's a
story. It all started
when I was 6 years old. I
was hip even then, but
practicing the piano
wasn't my gig...

(LIGHT AND EFFECTS TO CREATE
FLASHBACK.)

SCENE 8
(INT. JUKEBOX)

(LITTLE TITO IS SEATED AT THE
PIANO. HE IS PRACTICING. HE HITS
ONE WRONG NOTE AFTER ANOTHER)

TITO (VOICE OVER)

My fingers never seemed
to hit the right notes.

LITTLE TITO

(FRUSTRATED)

Argh!

(LITTLE TITO THROWS HIMSELF DOWN ON
THE KEYBOARD IN FRUSTRATION. MANY
NOTES SOUND AT ONCE)

MOTHER

(ENTERING)

Tito.

LITTLE TITO

(RAISING HIS HEAD OFF THE KEYBOARD)

Yes, Mother?

MOTHER

That sounded much better.

(EXITING)

Keep practicing dear.

(LITTLE TITO LETS HIS HEAD FALL
BACK ON THE KEYS)

PIANO

Stop that.

LITTLE TITO

(STRAIGHTENING UP, STARTLED)

Who said that?

PIANO

Me.

LITTLE TITO

Me, who?

PIANO

Me, your piano. Pounding
on me with your hands is
bad enough, you don't
need your head.

LITTLE TITO

Sorry.

PIANO

Now take your clumsy
little fingers off of me
and listen carefully.
I'll show you how that
piece should be played.

(LITTLE TITO HOLDS HIS HANDS UP IN THE AIR. THE KEYS OF THE PIANO MOVE UP AND DOWN AS THE PIECE IS PLAYED BEAUTIFULLY. AS IT ENDS, LITTLE TITO'S MOTHER ENTERS)

MOTHER

Magnificent, Tito. All your practicing is paying off.

(MOTHER KISSES LITTLE TITO BEFORE EXITING.)

LITTLE TITO

Wow, you're good.

PIANO

Sure, I practice.

LITTLE TITO

Can you play (title)?

PIANO

In my sleep.

TITO (VOICE OVER)

The piano played whatever I wanted it to play. I stopped practicing . At first it was fun. When the piano was playing, I just pretended that I was pressing the keys. My mother was like totally knocked out.

(LITTLE TITO PRETENDS TO PLAY FLIGHT OF THE BUBBLE BEE . HIS MOTHER WATCHES.)

MOTHER

You play brilliantly. I'm so proud.

(MOTHER KISSES HIM)

MOTHER (CONT')

I must be the luckiest
mother in the world to
have a son who practices
so hard.

(MOTHER EXITS. LITTLE TITO GETS UP
FROM THE PIANO AND WANDERS AWAY.
BORED.)

TITO (VOICE OVER)

But then I started to
feel badly about tricking
my mother. Besides, even
then, I knew I was
destined to ~~play piano~~...

clear hard to play the piano myself

(LITTLE TITO RETURNS TO THE PIANO
AND TOUCHES THE KEYS)

PIANO

Tito, take your fingers
off the keys. This is a
hard piece and you aren't
making it any easier for
me.

TITO (VOICE OVER)

... and it was pretty
boring sitting there
doing nothing while the
piano did all the
playing.

LITTLE TITO

Let me try playing this
time.

(LITTLE TITO TRIES PLAYING. HE
PLAYS HALTINGLY, MAKING MISTAKES.)

TITO (VOICE OVER)

I started playing again.
I wasn't very good, but I
was trying.

(WE HEAR TITO'S PLAYING IMPROVING)

And when I played
something well, I knew I
had done it myself. And
baby, that felt good.

PIANO

Say, that sounded pretty
all right.

LITTLE TITO

It did. didn't it?

PIANO

Keep practicing. One day,
you'll be as good as me.

LITTLE TITO

This is going to be fun.

(MOTHER ENTERS)

MOTHER

Tito, Who are you talking
to?

LITTLE TITO

You know what Mom?

MOTHER

What Tito?

LITTLE TITO

This one's just for you.

TITO (VOICE OVER)

I learned a lesson every
musician has to learn.

SCENE9

(INT JUKEBOX)

(EFFECTS AND LIGHTS BRING US BACK
TO THE PRESENT)

REX

To practice every day.

TITO

To take requests, here
comes one now.

(A NICKEL ROLLS DOWN THE SLOT. SFX:
MUSIC UP AS THEY START PLAYING
"ARKANSAS TRAVELER")

SCENE 10

(MAINSET)

(DURING THE SONG WE SEE VICKIE
FORLORNLY AGAINST THE JUKEBOX,
HOLDING ONE DRAWING IN EITHER HAND.
SCHEMER IS HUDDLED IN A CORNER. HE
DIPS A PEN IN THE INK HE TOOK FROM
BILLY'S WORKSHOP, MAKES A FEW LINES
ON THE PAPER AND THEN SURVEYS
HIMSELF IN THE MIRROR. HE BECOMES
SO ENGROSSED IN ADMIRING HIS OWN
IMAGE, HE FORGETS TO DRAW. KARA IS
ADDING FINAL TOUCHES TO HER
DRAWING. DAN IS STILL STARING AT A
BLANK SHEET.)

(AS THE SONG ENDS, STACY TAKES UP A
POSITION BEHIND DAN AND LOOKS OVER
HIS SHOULDER AT HIS DRAWING. SHE
SEES HE HASN'T STARTED IT YET. SHE
SITS DOWN BESIDE HIM. VICKIE IS
SEATED NEARBY, SHE LISTENS IN.)

STACY

Where's your drawing Dan?

DAN

I don't know who to draw.
Besides, Vickie's going
to win anyhow.

STACY

Oh, I know how you feel.
They're selling more
tickets than us over at
Snarlyville. Seems like
Snarlyville always comes
out ahead of Shining Time
Station. Makes me feel
like I should close down
the station.

DAN

But Aunt Stacy, you love
this Station.

STACY

I know. But Snarlyville
is beating us.

DAN

(REALLY CONCERNED)

So what? You have to stay
here because...becuase
you're what makes this
station special. And
besides, youwant to be
here.

(VICKIE IS LISTENING ATTENTIVELY)

STACY

I do love it here. The
smell of the trains, the
sound of the whistles,
the people coming and
going...

DAN

So if you like working
here so much, what do you
care about Snarlyville?

STACY

(RISING)

Maybe your right Dan.
Maybe we should do things
because we like to do
them, and we should stop
worrying about what other
people are doing.

(DAN GLANCES DOWN AT HIS BLANK
SHEET OF PAPER, THEN SMILES UP AT
STACY)

DAN

(TAKING OUT A CRAYON)

Yeah...Aunt Stacy?

STACY

Yes?

DAN

I just figured out what
I'm going to draw.

(VICKIE TURNS HER ATTENTION FROM
DAN TO KARA, STILL WORKING
PATIENTLY ON HER DRAWING, WITH A
BIG GRIN ON HER FACE. VICKIE HEAVES
A HEAVY SIGH.)

(MR. C. APPEARS NEXT TO VICKIE. HER
SIGH NEARLY THROWS HIS HAT OFF.)

MR.C

(HOLDING ON TO HIS HAT)

Such unreasonable
weather.

VICKIE

Look at her, Mr.
Conductor. She's so
pleased with herself. And
all because she can draw.
Well, so what?

MR. C

Are we talking about Kara again? I thought the magic picture was going to make everything all right.

VICKIE

It would have, if Kara didn't go around acting so proud of herself.

MR. C

Why Vickie, you sound just like Gordon did that time with the famous visitor.

VICKIE

Why? What happened to Gordon?

MR. C

I thought you'd never ask!

SCENE 11

(TTE: GORDON AND THE FAMOUS VISITOR)

SCENE 12

(MAINSET)

(MR. C IS HOLDING AN OLD FASHIONED CAMERA.)

VICKIE

I guess I've been kind of jealous of Kara.

MR. C

Say Cheese.

(MR. C TAKES A PHOTO OF VICKIE.
THERE IS BIG PUFF OF SMOKE IN THE
OLD STYLE.)

VICKIE

(SMILING A LITTLE)

At least I don't have to
worry about blowing my
dome off.

MR. C

Now one of you holding
the picture you're going
to enter in the contest.

(VICKIE LOOKS AT THE PICTURE SHE
DREW HERSELF)

VICKIE

I can't enter this. It
doesn't even look like
Stacy. My pictures never
look like what I'm
drawing.

Mr. C

If you want it to look
just like Stacy maybe you
should use a camera
instead of crayons.

VICKIE

Mr. C this is a coloring
contest.

MR. C

I can take a color
picture.

VICKIE

You have to draw the
picture.

MR. C

If you want to talk about
drawing, ~~try~~ an artist.
I'm a photographer. And I
have some developing to
do. See you later.

talk to

(MR. C DISAPPEARS, JUST AS KARA
APPROACHES VICKIE. KARA AS A
MANILLA ENVELOPE.)

KARA

It's almost time to take
in the contest entries.
Want to put yours in with
mine?

(SHE HOLD OUT THE ENVELOPE AS
THOUGH FOR VICKIE TO PUT IN HER
PICTURE)

VICKIE

(STEPPING PAST KARA TOWARD THE
WORKSHOP)

It's not ready yet.

KARA

The envelope's here when
you are.

(KARA PUTS DOWN THE ENVELOPE AND
GOES OVER TO WHERE DAN IS STILL
WORKING. VICKIE DISAPPEARS INTO THE
WORKSHOP.)

(SCHEMER SAUNTERS OVER TO THE
ENVELOPE. WHISTLING NONCHALANTLY.
HE LOOKS AROUND AND SEES HE'S
UNOBSERVED. HE GAZES LOVINGLY AT
THE IMAGE ON THE PAPER HE IS
HOLDING.)

(CU PICTURE: A CRUDE STICK LIKE
FIGURE WITH A SUGGESTION OF BEING
SCHEMER WITH HAIR)

(HE GRABS A NEARBY CRAYON AND
SCRIBBLES SOME WORDS ALONG THE
BOTTOM. THEN KISSES HIS PICTURE
GOODBYE BEFORE SLIPPING IT INTO THE
ENVELOPE.)

SCENE 13
(WORKSHOP)

(BILLY IS PAINTING. VICKIE ENTERS
AND WATCHES HIM FOR A MOMENT. BILLY
NOTICES HER.)

BILLY

Vickie, have you seen my ink?

VICKIE

The special ink you brought back from Chubby corners?

BILLY

It seems to have disappeared, a little sooner than I expected.

(HE CHUCKLES TO HIMSELF)

What do you think of my painting?

VICKIE

It's ... it's... What is it?

(ANGLE ON EASEL SO THAT WE CAN SEE BILLY'S PAINTING. IT BORDERS ON IMPRESSIONIST WITH MANY DABS OF COLOR. LOOKING CLOSELY, YOU MIGHT RECOGNIZE A TREE.)

BILLY

It's me.

VICKIE

It doesn't really look like you.

BILLY

It's meant to feel like me. It's meant to look like a tree.

*It's meant to look like
how I feel about it. I see*

VICKIE

It doesn't really look like a tree either. I don't think I get it.

BILLY

(STANDING BACK TO LOOK WITH HER)

When I was painting, I
was thinking about the
feeling I get when I'm
walking though the
forest. The trees are so
old and so wise. And I
feel peaceful and happy.
That's what I was
painting. The feeling.

VICKIE

All the different greens
make it look shady and
cool and kind of
friendly. Like you could
sit down and listen to a
story or something...
Hey, that's how it's like
you.

BILLY

I thought it was like me
because it starts on the
earth and reaches up
towards the sun.

(VICKIE AND BILLY STARE AT THE
PICTURE FOR A BEAT.)

What do you think?

VICKIE

I like it.

BILLY

Me too.

(VICKIE SCAMPERS OUT OF THE
WORKSHOP.)

SCENE 14
(MAINSET)

(KARA HOLDS OPEN THE MANILLA
ENVELOPE AS DAN SLIPS HIS DRAWING
IN. VICKIE JOINS THEM.)

VICKIE

You're done?

DAN

Yup. It turned out okay.

(KARA HOLDS OPEN THE ENVELOPE FOR
VICKIE WHO SLIPS IN A PAGE.)

VICKIE

Good.

KARA

It's time to hand them
in. The judging is going
to start soon.

DAN

Let's go.

(DAN AND KARA HEADS FOR THE EXIT TO
THE STREET. VICKIE REMAINS WHERE
SHE IS.)

KARA

Aren't you coming Vickie?

VICKIE

In a little while. You
guys go ahead.

(KARA AND DAN SKIP OUT, VICKIE
LOOKS DOWN AT THE PICTURE THAT
REMAINS IN HER HAND.)

SCENE 15
(MAINSET)

(STACY LOOKS UP FROM THE TICKET
BOOTH AND TAKES IN VICKIE SITTING
GLUMLY ON A BENCH. BEFORE SHE CAN
APPROACH HER, BARTON ENTERS IN HIS
MOTORCYCLE GEAR.)

STACY

Barton! You're back. How
was the race?

(VICKIE LOOKS UP WITH INTEREST)

BARTON

It was totally boss. You shoulda seen me. I was out of the starting gate like greased lightening - way ahead of the pack. Just one cat ahead of me. I poured on the speed. And there we were, rounding the last bend, neck in neck. And as we were wailing toward the finish line, I gunned it. He gunned it. Engine roared. What a gas.

(STACY AND VICKIE LOOK AT BARTON EXPECTANTLY)

BARTON

(STILL EXCITED)

He took me.

(STACY AND VICKIE ARE STILL EXPECTANT)

I lost.

(BARTON DEFLATES.)

(KARA AND DAN RUSH IN.)

DAN

(GREAT EXCITEMENT)

We won, we won!

BARTON

So we have some real winners here.

KARA

My drawing came in first!!

(BILLY COMES OUT OF HIS WORKSHOP
AND SCHEMER SIDLES OVER FROM THE
DIRECTION OF THE ARCADE. ONLY
VICKIE REMAINS WHERE SHE IS.)

(DAN DIGS INTO THE ENVELOPE AND
PULLS OUT KARA'S DRAWING.)

DAN

The grand champion.

(KARA'S DRAWING IS PASSED AROUND TO
OOOH'S AND AAAH'S)

DAN

Best action drawing!

KARA

That's Dan's picture.

(VICKIE IS GROWING GLUMMER BY THE
MINUTE)

(DAN HANDS HIS PICTURE TO BARTON)

DAN

(PROUDLY)

It's you. On your
motorcycle. Winning the
race.

BARTON

But I lost the race.

DAN

I think it's really neat
that you went in the race
at all..

You won because you tried

BARTON

I guess their's more than
one way to become a
winner.

STACY

What about Vickie's
picture?

(KARA GRABS THE ENVELOPE AND PULLS
OUT ANOTHER PICTURE.)

KARA

The third prize winner!

(TO VICKIE)

They said it was the most
expressive.

VICKIE

(SURPRISED)

Mine? The most
expressive?

(VICKIE JUMPS UP TO SEE THE PICTURE
WHICH KARA HAS ALREADY PASSED TO
STACY. STACY LOOKS FROM THE PICTURE
TO VICKIE.)

VICKIE

(SHEEPISHLY)

You looked more beautiful
in the other one.

STACY

I like this one better.

(BILLY LOOKS OVER VICKIE'S SHOULDER
AT THE PICTURE.)

VICKIE

What do you think?

BILLY

I was wondering what you
thought.

VICKIE

I like it.

*shows
because it's how I feel about Stacy*

BILLY

So do I. It reminds me of
you.

*tells me about you
and how you feel about
stacy*

SCHEMER

Any more prize winning
pictures in that
envelope?

KARA

There are no pictures
left at all.

SCHEMER

Come on. There's gotta be
a picture of me in there.

(KARA REACHES INTO THE ENVELOPE AND
PULLS OUT A BLANK SHEET)

KARA

Just this blank sheet...
Wait, it's not blank.
There's something written
on it.

(READING)

"My picture of Schemer..
the finest human being
I've ever had the
pleasure of knowing.
Signed an anonymous
admirer."

STACY

(IRONIC)

I wonder who that could
be.

SCHEMER

(SNATCHING THE PICTURE FROM KARA)

Where's my beautiful
face? My million dollar
smile? I've finished. My
picture has disappeared.

BILLY

Funny. Something of mine
finished today too. My
disappearing ink?

SCHEMER

Disappearing ink?!

BILLY

Yup, that special ink
brought back from the
Chubby Corners was
disappearing. Whatever
you write with it
disappears. I was going
to use it for a magic
trick. I don't suppose
you borrowed it Schemer?
To draw a self portrait?

SCHEMER

(BACKING AWAY TOWARD THE ARCADE)

Me? Don't be ridiculous.
Someone else drew that
picture. Someone who
admires me. And it was a
fantastically good
picture too.

VICKIE

You know, I think Schemer
and I have something in
common.

(EVERYONE GIVES HER THEIR MOST
STARTLED LOOK)

We're both proud of our
own work.

(MUSIC UP)

(CREDITS)
(FADE)